

United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service
675 U.S. Courthouse
801 Broadway
Nashville, Tennessee 37203

April 20, 2005

TENNESSEE BULLETIN NO. 300-05-4

SUBJECT: LTP – ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVES PROGRAM (EQIP)

Purpose. To announce the Small-Scale/Limited Resource Farmers Initiative and Implementation Plan in Tennessee.

Expiration Date. September 30, 2006.

On March 15, 2005, USDA Secretary Mike Johanns announced that the Natural Resources Conservation Service will provide up to \$6 million for the new Small-Scale/Limited Resource Farmers Initiative in 11 states in the Southeast, including Tennessee, and the Caribbean Area. Each state will provide up to \$500,000 in program funds for the initiative. The purpose of this initiative is to improve technical services and participation in USDA programs through improved outreach effort to small-scale/limited resource farmers.

Tennessee has developed an Implementation Plan for assisting small-scale/limited resource farmers in this initiative for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2005. The Implementation Plan is attached.

Ranking Criteria for the Cropland Pool and Grazing Lands Pool and the 11 Prescribed Grazing Requirements are attached.

Please direct any questions to Paul Fulks, Acting Assistant State Conservationist (Programs) or AnnSue Wattenbarger, Resource Conservationist.

/s/

JAMES W. FORD
State Conservationist

Enclosures

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